



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

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MEMORANDUM

To: VB/I-70 Working Group members

From: Ted Fellman, EPA Community Involvement Coordinator

Subject: **Draft Community Involvement Plan**

Here is a copy of EPA's Draft Community Involvement Plan (CIP). First of all, I apologize for the delays in getting it out for your comments and I appreciate your patience. Hopefully we can now collaboratively improve the Plan so that we have a document that can be useful for all of us involved in community involvement activities, which for this site means all of us. In revising the Plan, I realized how far we've come over the past year, and hope that the dialogue we've begun will help us to use the CIP as a tool for improving our efforts. When you review the CIP keep this in mind. I want this to be a meaningful plan that incorporates the best available information, but also reflects our different perspectives on the issues involved.

There are a few specific things I would like to draw your attention to as you review the CIP:

- Community background and concerns. Section 3 has a lot of community specific information. Much of this was collected by our contractors, using available demographic materials. This means that there is more information for neighborhoods with a formalized neighborhood plan, and that some of the categories seem a bit odd. Please feel free to add to our descriptions so that they are accurate. On a similar note, most of the concerns outlined in this section are from our community interviews conducted in the winter of 1998/1999. Obviously, some concerns have changed, so any comments in this section would be welcome.
- Roles. In section 4.2 there is a discussion of agency roles. I realize that these are not defined specifically in relation to this Site. Rather than make assumptions, I invite you to give appropriate comments for your agency.
- Appendices. The appendices gather a wide range of information that should prove useful to all of us. Please review, update if needed, add contacts we forgot, and suggest whatever changes will make these accurate, especially in regard to community locations, groups, etc.



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- Language. I have tried to change some language to reflect community preferences, but in an effort to finish this draft there is still some bureaucratese. Please indicate if there are language concerns that you would like incorporated in the final (i.e. Elyria and Swansea instead of Swansea/Elyria).

Of course, any comments are welcome that would improve the plan. Please note that some sections do need updating, such as the site history. I decided to wait until the next draft for some of this updating since there will be even more information available and in order to get a draft out for comment sooner.

I would like to get your comments by the next Working Group meeting on July 20, 2000. However, if you need more time, please let me know. I really want to get everyone's comments, so I will stay flexible. The final CIP should be produced in binders so that we can update and replace sections as things change over the course of the project. Hopefully, that is another way to make the plan more useful for all of you.

Thanks in advance for your help reviewing the Community Involvement Plan. If you have any questions, please call me at (303) 312 6119.